

MS
Coll.
788

George Elliott Clarke Papers

Dates: 1936, 1966-2023

Extent: 14 Banker Boxes; 4.6 meters

Scope and Content:

This accession of George Elliott Clarke's papers contains extensive materials that include his professional and personal life. The accession mostly includes correspondence from 2019 to 2023 (primarily 2022) of personal correspondence, manuscripts, academic materials, invitations to events and letters from various prominent organizations and individuals. Clarke organized his correspondence based on the event and materials that he worked to publish. Such as his collection of email correspondence on his involvement in the 5 Poets – Art Song project, and emails based on his publications. Printed emails are the primary format of correspondence. There are also materials related to Clarke's published works *Canticles III*, *My African-Canadian Life: Scientist at the Microscope*; *Activist at the Microphone*, and *J'Accuse!... (Poem Versus Silence)*. Clarke also acquired various short poems and articles written by his students and other poets.

Contain series:

Series 1: Correspondence (13 boxes, 3.6 metres)

Series 2: Manuscripts and Works (.5 metres, 1 box)

Series 3: Literary and Political Magazine (.5 metres, 1 box)

Custodial History:

Papers were donated to the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library by George Elliott Clarke in 2022.

Notes:

Located at Downsview Offsite Storage.

Shorthand notations are used throughout the finding aid and are to be translated as follows:

GEC – George Elliot Clarke

n.d – No Date

Restricted: Box 14

George Elliott Clarke Papers

SERIES 1	CORRESPONDENCE	DATES
Box 1 – 13	Contains the email and letter correspondence of George Elliot Clarke professional life. These include emails and responses from colleagues and students at the University of Toronto and other post-secondary institutions. Lastly it includes poetry events, research and with communication with publishers, poets, fans and friends (arranged by month)	1998-2022
1:1-10	Correspondence with Nova Scotian Acadian Author Simone Poirier- Bures and newspaper clippings, photographs, letters and postcards	1998-2015
1:11 – 46 Box 2 – 4	General Correspondence with manuscripts for review by Keith Garebian, Sachi Nag, and Tom Hamilton. Includes student correspondence based on the various courses, academic projects, and lectures. Also includes his correspondence and reviews for <i>Canticles III</i> and Clarke’s other works. Also includes publications from his colleagues.	2014, 2018, 2021-2022
4:20	Letter from Dalhousie University	February 9, 2022
4:21	Calgary Spoken word Society letter	June 11, 2021
4:22-26	Various letters and postcards, from friends and family; and flyers for various events – letters from various organizations from University of New Brunswick, Dalhousie	[-2022]
4:27	Advertisement and Notes: Handwritten notes by George Clarke and includes business cards from various business and academic institutions	2022
Box 5 – 7 8:1-10	General Correspondence, plus correspondence related to publication for George Elliott Clarke’s <i>Quest for a “National” Nationalism</i> (Breakwater, 2021); and includes Manuscript by Salimah Valiani and Lisa Manuel	2016, 2020-2022
8:11-36 9:1-9	Correspondence related to the reception of <i>J’Accuse...! Poem versus Silence</i> (Exile, 2021). Also include email correspondence and commentary on the collusion of Clarke’s ‘cancellation’ in 2020	2019-2022
9:10-38 Box 10	Correspondence related to the “5 Poets Breaking Into Song” Art Song project – includes list of poetry and signed readings of music sheets; and various drafts of poems (mostly printed copies)	2020-2022
12:32-40 13:1-12	Correspondence on the promotion of <i>Where Beauty Survived</i> (Knopf Canada, 2021); and manuscript by Michael Fraser	2021-2022

SERIES 2	MANUSCRIPTS AND WORKS	
4:16	Yin Xiaoyuan – <i>The Fractals</i> and <i>Ren Woxing</i>	2000, 2020
4:17	<i>The Deposition of Sally Bassette: Notes for the Defense</i> – GEC	n.d
4:18	Various Articles and ticket	2020, 2022
4:19	Various essays and passage from students	n.d
4:28	<i>The Green Archetypal Field of Poetry: on poetry, poets and psyche</i> by Stephen Morrissey	2022
4:29	<i>To Grace Bridges</i> by Thomas Gannon Hamilton – with letter from Allan Briesmaster	September 20, 2022
4:30	<i>Pieces of My Self</i> by Keith Garebian - manuscript	2023
4:31	<i>Hands Like Trees – Stories</i> by Sabyasachi Nag	1985
5:9	<i>29 Leads to Love</i> - by Salimah Valiani	[November] 2021
5:15	Draft for <i>Model Woman 152</i>	December 2, 2021
5:27	<i>War Canticles</i> Vallum Chapbook Series No.34	May 2022
6:6	Nimbus Publishing contracts	2022
6:7	GEC Essays – <i>The Price of (Self) – Sacrifice & Defining African-Nova Scotian Definitively</i>	2022
6:8	Elegy of Maria by Keith Garebian	2022
6:9	Draft for Bryant A. Clarke	[2022]
6:19	<i>The Wordsmith and the Half-Fallen Angel</i> by Giovanna Riccio	[2022]
6:20	Various pamphlets from Toronto Outdoor Art Fair, The Halcyon & Stratford Festival	2022
6:21	Film consultant services Agreement	March 18, 2022
Box 11	GEC Manuscripts for Howard McCurdy Autobiography <i>My African-Canadian Life: Scientist at the Microscope; Activist at the Microphone</i> (Nimbus; 2023); <i>Canticles III</i> (2022, Guernica); and <i>Whiteout: How Canada Cancels Black Culture</i> (Vehicule Press, 2023); and correspondence	2005-2022
12:1	Email Correspondences on <i>J'Accuse</i>	October, December 2022
12:2	Various Magazine: CAUT Bulletin, Literary Review of Canada and the Walrus	2022
12:3	<i>J'Accuse</i> by Aharon Shabtai; <i>Realia</i> related to the publication of <i>J'Accuse...! (Poem Versus Silence)</i> by GEC	2003
12:4	<i>J'Accuse</i> a film by Abel Gance – DVD edition; related to the publication of <i>J'Accuse...! (Poem Versus Silence)</i> by GEC	1938/2016

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12:5	<i>We Accuse</i> – Bill Epton speaks to the court; related to the publication of <i>J'Accuse...! (Poem Versus Silence)</i> by GEC. Note: This item has been removed from folder and catalogued, please see: pam 09509.	1966
12:6	<i>J'Accuse</i> by Graham Greene; related to the publication of <i>J'Accuse...! (Poem Versus Silence)</i> by GEC	1982
RESTRICTED Box 14	Audio Cassettes of Interviews with Burnley “Rocky” Jones, conducted by GEC and Professor James St. Germain Walker, to produce <i>Burnley “Rocky” Jones: Revolutionary</i> (Fernword, 2015) 41 audio tapes.	2007-2008, 2015
RESTRICTED Box 14	Signed poster and wax gift set	2020 & Nov 2, 2022
RESTRICTED 14:2-21	Restricted correspondence and gifts from Oni the Haitian Sensation. Features sensitive information	2020-2022

SERIES 3	LITERARY AND POLITICAL MAGAZINE	
12:7-31	Literary and Political Magazines that was considered “Radical” and/or “Underground”, were collected by Toronto Artist Bob Jordan. Many estimable Beat writers appear in the magazines from Tom Veitch, Harry Mathews and more	1967-1980, 2013